

The Sun.

FOR 1888.

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UNITED DEMOCRACY.

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Address THE SUN, New York.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1888.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY SUN, issued to-morrow morning, must be handed in this evening before six o'clock.

Louisiana.

The result of the State election in Louisiana to-day will throw some light upon the important question whether the Republicans can count on a break in the solid South next November. Dissatisfaction with the tariff policy of the CLEVELAND Administration is rife in Louisiana, and any marked decrease in the Democratic majority for Governor will be significant. It will point to a more serious loss in the Presidential election, should the tariff be the issue.

The present Democratic Governor of Louisiana was elected in April, 1884, by a majority of more than 45,000 over his Republican competitor. Yet at the November election in that State year CLEVELAND had less than 16,000 over BLAINE.

We have alluded to the dissatisfaction of the Louisiana Democrats with the tariff ideas of Mr. CLEVELAND, even as they find modified expression in the MILLS bills. The tariff schedule proposed by Mr. MILLS affects Louisiana's interests more heavily than in the case of any other Southern State. That leading Democratic newspaper of the South, the *New Orleans Times-Democrat*, estimated a few days ago that Louisiana's direct loss by the MILLS tariff would be \$6,000,000 a year. "There is scarcely one of our leading industries," said the *Times-Democrat*, "but will be cut by the provisions of the measure which, I do not gentlemen from Texas wishes to pass. Yet we are told by Mr. MILLS that it is a Democratic measure, and if Louisiana does not like his peculiar style of Democracy, it can go over to the Republicans."

Suppose the Democrats should take Mr. MILLS and the free traders at their word. Can the Democratic party afford to lose her eight electoral votes in November? Where is the compensation to come from in a free trade canvas? From Kansas? From Massachusetts? From Iowa?

Mr. Mills's Day At Last.

Nearly one hundred members of the House of Representatives are already registered on the Speaker's list for tariff speeches during the discussion of the MILLS bill which begins to-day. The schedule, of course, is subject to additions as interest grows. It will be a great debate.

Meanwhile, the appropriation bills and the other urgent business of Congress cannot be postponed indefinitely. The end of the present fiscal year is not very far away.

The reports of Mr. MILLS's progress toward the reestablishment of his health continue to be satisfactory. He has so far recovered that he is able to travel back to Washington from Fort Monroe, with the intention of taking charge in person of the fortunes of his bill, when it is called up in the House to-day.

It is unfortunate for Mr. MILLS that just as he is about to take the floor for free will, his own Democratic constituents in the Ninth district of Texas should call his attention to their interests in the sharp resolutions adopted last week at Waco. "For a reason by our Representative," they say, "we urge upon our Senators and Representatives in Congress to vote against the MILLS bill, and we call upon all good men from other States to protect Texas, if her own Representatives fail to do so." To the other complications of Mr. MILLS's situation there is now added this energetic appeal for protection, coming as it does from the very citizens to whose votes he owes his seat in Congress and his post at the head of the Committee on Ways and Means.

We understand that the free traders in Congress now believe that if the tariff speeches are not too long, and if too many Congressmen do not insist upon speaking, a vote on the MILLS bill can possibly be reached in the House by June 1.

This date is obviously near the date fixed for the meeting of the Democratic National Convention at St. Louis. If the free traders were really anxious to have the tariff controversy decisively disposed of, and out of the way before the nomination is made and the platform framed, they ought to have begun operations a little earlier in the year.

The truth about the situation is plain. The postponement of the decisive test until after the Convention may serve the purposes of those who, with or without Mr. CLEVELAND's authority, are urging him as a free trade candidate for renomination. But it would be vastly better for Democratic prospects in the canvass and at the election to have the MILLS bill out of the way before the Convention meets and the resolution makers get to work.

Matthew Arnold.

The sudden and, so far as is known to the public, wholly unexpected death of Mr. MATTHEW ARNOLD will silence the cautious outcry of some quarters by his recent survey of certain aspects of our civilization in the *Nineteenth Century*. Americans as well as Englishmen will now recognize our language in the last generation.

Mr. ARNOLD was always keenly alive to the deficiencies of newspapers, yet, but for the vantage ground afforded to him by a newspaper, he would have died almost unknown outside of a rather narrow circle of highly cultivated readers. Twenty-five years ago he was Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford. Nearly all that is durable and striking in his poetical achievement belongs to the antecedent period. His remarkable epic fragments and most of his narrative and lyric verse had already been published, but these were far from giving him

the wide popularity which Tennyson had gained, and which was reserved for Swinburne. No doubt he had more readers than Mr. WILLIAM MORRIS has secured, but, like that poet, he seemed destined to the "fit audience though few," which finds congenial places of reunion in great universities.

It was the *Pull Mail Gazette* which transformed MATTHEW ARNOLD from a poet into a philosopher, from a minstrel singing to men and women of esthetic culture and refinement into a kind of prophet and mentor, speaking, as CARLYLE, RUSKIN, and FROUDE have spoken, to the whole Anglo-American world. Neither did he have to toil for many disappointing years, as CARLYLE had toiled, in order to reach a place of eminence and authority. Mr. ARNOLD attained it at a bound, from the moment he gave up writing poems of Greek elevation and simplicity in academic cloisters, and substituted a searching and earnest discussion of timely topics in the columns of a daily journal.

Now, after a year or two, it is to be feared that Mr. ARNOLD himself seemed to forget that, of what is permanently valuable in his prose compositions, a very large part was produced under the conditions of newspaper writing. That such should have been the case is, when we think of it, a fact almost unparalleled in the history of journalism. It is true that Southey and his much greater connection, COLERIDGE, wrote regularly for certain London newspapers, but they wrote anonymously, and very few of their contributions have been deemed worthy of preservation. JOHNSON's papers in the *Rambler* have of course been collected, but they now seldom find readers, and they never had the vogue of the ARNOLD papers in the *Pull Mail*. We should have to go back to ADDISON's essays in the *Spectator* to meet with veritable counterparts in respect of instant and wide success coupled with prolonged and posthumous appreciation.

As a thinker no less than a poet, MATTHEW ARNOLD evidently stood on a higher plane than ADDISON. He had learned much more from books; he had seen many more cities of men and studied their manners far more profoundly. Few men in whom the imaginative faculty was equally developed have been better reasoners; his mind was a consummate instrument; his taste was flawless; his style was less rhetorical than that of his contemporary, FROUDE, less artificial, and, so to speak, flincher than ADDISON's, and, therefore, perhaps, more admirable than either's. That is to say, no Englishman has brought to the frequent and informal consideration of social problems so much knowledge combined with so much penetration, illumination, urbanity, and sanity.

Mr. ARNOLD has left behind him an intangible fragment, "Sohrab and Rustum," which will rank among the finest epic ventures in our tongue. He has bequeathed to be a monopoly of the death of his friend GORDON, which is consigned to the *Times* with the *Lyonesse* and *Shelley's* "Adonais." He has given us minor poems in which WORDSWORTH's simplicity and the finish of GRAY seem conjoined. But during the latter years of his life he has been most known and valued as the keenest and most trustworthy of social observers, the wisest and the gentlest of social philosophers. And perhaps for some years to come he will be primarily remembered as an apostle of humanization, a student, elevator, and refiner of society. For a time at least Americans will be inclined to see in him, what BULWER saw in ADDISON: not so much the poet as

"The supreme spectator of the show, The ivory's polish lends the ivory's shine."

Mr. Lowell on Political Corruption.

MR. JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL's first remedy for that widespread and deep-seated corruption which he thinks he detects in the politics of the United States, is the patterning of our civil service after the Chinese model. In common with other civil service philosophers, he seems to suppose that the desire to control offices is the main motive of political corruption.

The fact is that while the Federal machine may be used with powerful effect in helping, or trying to help, candidates of its complexion, it has nothing to do with that purchase of votes or of legislators which, in Mr. LOWELL's view, is on the increase. The abolition of the spoils system would not perceptibly lessen the fierce insistence where with political parties strive against one another for power. (Not the desire to possess a hundred thousand and odd offices, most of them petty, but the ambition to direct the policy of this great nation, or of parts of it, impels parties and politicians to take every means to arrive at power.)

Unwittingly means would be used to this end just the same under the Chinese as under the American method of civil service. Mr. LOWELL exaggerates vastly beyond the truth the political corruption existing in the United States, but not half as extensively as he exaggerates the remedial quality of the civil service nostrum.

We would also take the liberty of suggesting to Mr. LOWELL and the other philosophers that the country in which the system they admire originated, where it has been longest in vogue, and is the most thoroughly understood and applied, that is to say, in China itself, the corruption of the Government, and of every department of it, far exceeds in extent, intensity, and comprehensiveness all that has existed in our day in any other land whatever. There is nothing in the administration of China that we should think honest or decent. Everything is done by bribery. The country is a land of corruption and of every art of power and every official decision is converted into a means of bribery. To squeeze those who are below, and to gratify with gifts and offerings those who are above, is the whole sum of politics in that great original land of civil service reform and of competitive literary examinations.

Murder by Electricity.

If one of the officers or agents of an electric light company had shot a boy in the street, or stabbed him, or beat his brains out with a club, the community would be greatly startled and shocked, and a trial for murder would follow. If these people, however, set a deadly trap for a poor fellow, and he fell into the snare, and was killed by a current of electricity, would it be a murder, or not a murder, when a pool of blood is instantly killed by a silent shock of electricity? There is a burial in Potter's Field, and the practical electrician whose carelessness has cost a human life eats his dinner in freedom and draws his salary just the same. Meantime, the authorities devote themselves to the important task of punishing a middle-aged woman who has made a prominent lawyer believe that RAPHAEL has a paint brush with a handle long enough to reach from heaven to New York!

We invite the attention of our HARBOR-AL-RASCHID in the City Hall to this electric woe homicide.

Its practical importance is quite as great as the flag question.

The young bookbinder who was killed in East Broadway Saturday night because he was guilty of the crime of leaning against a telegraph pole, does not care what sort of a flag floats above the City Hall.

Let the American flag fly there, but let it be significant of the protest which American law should assert to life, as well as liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Are College Men at the Beer Tube?

A remark that challenges attention was made on Sunday night at Clarendon Hall by Mr. LOUIS HERRMANN, Secretary of the National Brewers' Union. Denying a remark, attributed to the bosses, that beer makers are not skilled laborers, Mr. HERRMANN said this:

"Unfortunately, as many of you know, in breweries the men with college educations are in the tubs, and the men who started up little saloons on some wayward road are the ones who are the real bosses of money and no brains. They say that we are not skilled labor."

These college graduates can hardly be from Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Columbia, or any one of our American institutions. They must come from the universities of Germany, and Mr. HERRMANN's statement regarding them is the first revelation of their learned acquisitions to come before the public eye. It stimulates reflection in more than one way.

How did these university men come here and take up the occupation of brewers with out exciting comment among their fellow countrymen, which would have reached the ears of the natives? Why should they go into brewing in preference to other trades? And what is the value of a university education if it puts its possessor at such a startling disadvantage as compared with men who have begun life in the roadside saloons?

If the college men have come off so poorly in their career, in comparison with the country saloon keepers, it will be particularly interesting to see how they succeed in their conduct of the lockout. However, we imagine that the contest which has just begun in such astounding dimensions, will be much more even than Mr. HERRMANN's estimate of the brewery workmen would indicate. They are extremely hopeful as to the result of their contest, and it must be said that the tendency of the day inclines in their favor. On the other hand, the bosses are well organized, otherwise they would never have dreamed of engaging in a conflict so enormous, of which the outcome cannot be foretold.

Win or lose, however, the brewers should heed unceasingly the warning of Secretary HERRMANN against violence.

Pacific Coast Candidates.

That able and independent journal, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, assails, with its wonted energy, the proposition to run the Hon. LELAND STANFORD as the Republican candidate for President. The ground of opposition is that he is identified with the Central Pacific Railroad, and that it would not do to have a candidate with such connections.

The only man from the Pacific coast who has yet been mentioned as a possible candidate for the Presidency, against whom not one objection can be brought, is WILLIAM TELL COLEMAN of San Francisco. He is a great manufacturer and merchant, with relations extending all over the world, and a great employer of American labor. His ability and his character have been proved in a manner to satisfy the utmost exactions of political wisdom and patriotism. He is a large-hearted, broad-gauged, powerful, and wise man. And he is a Democrat.

Our valued contemporary, the *Boston Globe*, has some interesting remarks on the Farmers' Trust, which people are moving to establish in the Northwestern States and Territories of the Mississippi Valley. The plan contemplates the institution of ten central agencies by which the products of the members are to be sold and supplies purchased on stated commissions. The *Globe* anticipates that legislation in behalf of the common welfare will be applied to prevent the extension of such trusts, and to maintain intact the wholesome rule of competition.

Of course our contemporary also anticipates that the trades unions, Knights of Labor, and similar combinations of working people, devoted to the protection of their own interests, will also be suppressed by legislation in case they should become too powerful.

All the striking employees of the Burlington Railroad, from the locomotive engineers and firemen to the switchmen, have at last admitted that they are beaten. The officers of the company declare that every branch of their work is in good running order. They carry passengers and handle freight without insuperable difficulty, and the prediction that traffic would be hopelessly obstructed on account of the incompetency of the new hands has not been realized. Moreover, the new hands have not turned out to be wreckers. Many on-lookers have been surprised at self they have become more expert. The accidents have been few and slight, and we presume they have all been reported. At the same time, the whole force that has been on strike in all the branches of the railroad's service must be praised for their orderly conduct during the past two months. The acts of violence have been so few and so petty as to be hardly deserving of notice, and the orders of the leaders to keep the peace have been obeyed.

The Albany Evening Journal is in error when it alleges that years ago, during the session of a Democratic State Convention in Brimhall Hall, Brooklyn, Gen. JOHN COCHRAN called for three cheers for the Fugitive Slave Law. Gen. JOHN COCHRAN was never in a Convention in Brimhall Hall in Brooklyn, if there ever was such a hall, and he never called for three cheers for the Fugitive Slave Law, either there or elsewhere.

A highly respected correspondent makes a complaint to the *World* we are bound to give him. When you make the 10th verse of the xth chapter of Revelation refer to the whole collection of books or epistles or gospels, as they are variously designated, in the New Testament, instead of that particular Book of Revelation, you are guilty of a gross inaccuracy.

We think our correspondent himself is guilty of inaccuracy. We have not mutilated the Scripture or attempted to give to any passage a bearing different from that intended by the inspired writer himself. We did not say that the extract from Revelation xth, which we reproduced word for word, had any direct relation to the whole of the New Testament or to the other individual books which it comprises, but that it should serve as a warning against fragmentary and inaccurate quotation from the Bible, giving incomplete and mutilated passages which fail to express the full sense of the Word.

Surely the warning against mutilation of the Revelation may be held to apply also to the mutilation of the other sacred books.

Prof. FELIX ADLER preached on Sunday against the erection here of the projected Episcopal cathedral, which he regards as a piece of untimely medievalism. We apprehend that the attitude of the apostle of ethical Judaism is not greatly influenced by the fact that the cathedral is to be erected on a site which is now occupied by the ruins of the old synagogue.

Landlady (well-bourgeois house)—Have you any children, madam?

Applauding madam!—Only one, little boy, and he is very lively.

Landlady (dubiously)—I hardly know what to say.

Madam—Please, my dear, she tried the wrong place.

Chances in the Boy's Favor.

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Applauding madam!—Only one, little boy, and he is very lively.

Landlady (dubiously)—I hardly know what to say.

Madam—Please, my dear, she tried the wrong place.

Overestimated His Strength.

"I think I must have overestimated my personal strength and popularity," said a headstrong candidate.

"That induced you to think you possessed such qualities," he replied sadly, "my name is Robert, and everybody calls me Bob."

The *Commonplace Magazine* comes gallantly up to the standard of competition which is now being set in that department of literature. Its articles are original and striking, and its variety is great, while the illustrations command the approbation of the critic. It is an excellent magazine.

Methodist churches must be built for the use of the common people. The plans for the revival in an interesting development of religious enthusiasm in these agonistic times.

After more than four months Congress has at last removed the doubts of the Administration as to the propriety of the tariff. The legislation required to remove the doubts of the Administration was so simple and the good likely to be accomplished by it so great, that it is inconceivable that the average citizen who is interested in the tariff should have been so long in coming to the part of the tariff reformers to have the surplus in the Treasury as an argument to compel the acceptance of their views. If this is so, it is an interesting coincidence that the surplus has been so long in coming to the part of the tariff reformers to have the surplus in the Treasury as an argument to compel the acceptance of their views. If this is so, it is an interesting coincidence that the surplus has been so long in coming to the part of the tariff reformers to have the surplus in the Treasury as an argument to compel the acceptance of their views.

There is a short roll of philosophers who are now preaching somewhat novel doctrines of the tariff. The most prominent of them are Prof. FELIX ADLER, who preaches in Cheltenham Hall; Rev. H. O. PENTECOST, who preaches in Masonic Hall; ex-Father MCGLENN, who has preached all winter in the Academy of Music; and Rev. CHARLES MCCARTHY, who preaches at his quarters in town. Mr. ADLER and Mr. MCCARTHY have held the tariff in a course of lectures. Mr. PENTECOST and Mr. MCGLENN are new comers in the independent business. One of them preached last Sunday on the tariff; another scolded his enemies, and another attacked the project of building an Episcopal cathedral in this city. All these independent preachers get honors who cheer their more sensational utterances.

This year has, thus far, been the most ill-starred year for strikes and strikers since the labor organizations reached their present proportions. Not a single great success has been won in the numerous strikes of 1887.

THE GUNBOAT YORKTOWN.

The *Pleaser-Craft of the New Group of Gunboats*. WASHINGTON, April 16.—The first of the new vessels designed, constructed for and built under the administration of Secretary WILLIAM B. REID, is now substantially ready to take to the water. This is the Yorktown, built by Cramp & Sons at Philadelphia, and the pioneer of the new gunboats. Her keel was laid last year.

The Yorktown is of about 1,700 tons displacement, and has a length on load line of 230 feet, an extreme beam of 36 feet, a draft of 14 feet, and a maximum of 15. She is a twin screw steamer of 2,200 indicated horse power under natural and 3,300 under forced combustion, and her speed is expected to be sixteen knots. Her rig is that of a three-masted schooner, spreading an area of 4,400 square feet of plain sail. Her coal capacity is 400 tons, and she can make a run of 150 miles on a full load of coal.

The hull is of steel, without wooden sheathing, her hull being divided into many watertight compartments. As in nearly all the new vessels of the navy, her coal bunkers are so placed as to protect the machinery by a belt of coal nine feet thick. In addition, a steel deck, of an inch thick, runs the length of the hull, and the machinery, ammunition rooms, and steering apparatus, its engine amidships being at the load line, whence the funnels rise. The funnels are three feet below the load line. The openings in this armor plating are protected by the armor plating, and the funnels are three feet below the load line. The openings in this armor plating are protected by the armor plating, and the funnels are three feet below the load line.

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PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS.

Cleveland the Man.

From the Atlantic Constitution.

THE NEW YORK SUN thinks that an editorial recently appearing in this column is the most important of the kind which has been written during the past five years. The *SUN* alludes to the remarks we made in regard to the rumor that Mr. Cleveland proposed to decline to be a candidate for a second term.

Our comments are very far from intended, but the question is important only to the extent that it represents the common sense of the Democratic party. There are perhaps other Democrats who would be available as candidates, but there are none who could be so well qualified to carry out the policy of Mr. Cleveland's message except Mr. Cleveland himself.

We suppose, of course, that the *SUN* understands this perfectly. Neither Mr. Cleveland nor Mr. Cleveland could be a candidate for a second term, because neither has committed himself to the views therein expressed.

There is another view which the *SUN* may or may not appreciate, and it is this: A Democratic victory in 1892 is much more important to the South than the success of either protection or free trade ideas. A Republican victory means disaster to the best interests of the South, and for that reason we want to see Mr. Cleveland make the race again, no matter what his platform may be.

Now They Say the Case Stands.

From the Albany Evening Journal.

NEW YORK, April 14.—A determined effort has been made by the friends of the Administration to induce Mr. Cleveland to accept the nomination for Governor. New York are united in support of the President's claim for renomination. Nothing, however, is further from the truth. The County Democracy, it is conceded, will be for President Cleveland at the St. Louis Convention. But victory has yet accomplished that which is supposed to be accomplished by the Kings County Democracy.